

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An identification level control method and an optical receiver are disclosed to determine an optimal identification level in a simple structure without clock extraction. In the identification level control method, an identification level supplied to a limiter amplifier is changed from a lower bound to an upper bound thereof and is stored together with an output average of the limiter amplifier. Then, a first average and a second average are set based on the output average. A first identification level corresponding to the first average and a second identification level corresponding to the second average are obtained, and an optimal identification level is computed based on the first identification level and the second identification level, and is supplied to the limiter amplifier.